

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 31-37 stand rejected as obvious over McNamara et al. in view of Cabib and Hock. However, for the reasons stated below, Applicants submit that the current rejection is not well taken.

As pointed out in the last amendment, the claims in this application now contain two new requirements for the light that is used to illuminate the sample: it must first be passed through of a filter to remove undesired wavelengths and through condensing optics.

The Examiner asserts that the use of such a filter is disclosed in Cabib et al.

However, Cabib et al. disclose only the use of filters, of unspecified type, to process light that is emitted by the sample before entering the interferometer. Cabib et al. do not disclose such treatment of light before it illuminates the sample that is being read.

Additionally, the Examiner does not specify where in the prior art there is disclosed use of condensing optics to process a light that is to be used to illuminate a sample in a system as claimed herein, and Applicants are not aware of any such disclosure in the art of record.

Applicants respectfully submit that the current claims are patentable over the cited art and are in condition for allowance, and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

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